

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A quantitative suction tip to be attached on a tip of a suction nozzle for the suction of a liquid, comprising:

a fixed volume chamber with a predetermined volume and having a suction opening provided at a lower end thereof; and

a through hole provided in a division wall formed at an upper end of said fixed volume chamber, said through hole having a smaller cross-sectional area than that of said fixed volume chamber,

wherein a cross-sectional area of said suction opening is equal to a cross-sectional area of said fixed volume chamber at a position where said suction opening contacts said fixed volume chamber.

2. (original) A quantitative suction tip according to Claim 1, wherein a fitting portion is formed on said fixed volume chamber for fitting with a periphery of the tip of said suction nozzle.

3. (original) A quantitative suction tip according to Claim 2, wherein said fixed volume chamber and said fitting portion are separately formed and then engagingly combined to form a unit.

4. (original) A quantitative suction tip according to Claim 1, wherein an engaging portion is formed over said through hole of said fixed volume chamber to engage the tip of said suction nozzle.

5. (currently amended) A quantitative suction apparatus using the quantitative suction tip according to Claim 1, comprising:

a suction pump connected to said suction nozzle, for drawing a liquid into said fixed volume chamber by causing a suction pressure to exist in said fixed volume chamber of said quantitative suction tip; and

a control unit connected to said suction nozzle and said suction pump, for detecting the suction pressure and terminating a suction operation by said suction pump upon detection of a change in the suction pressure indicating that the liquid has filled said fixed volume chamber and therefore has reached said through hole.

6. (new) The quantitative suction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a difference in the cross-sectional area of said through hole and said fixed volume chamber is set such that a pressure change can be obtained for a given detection sensitivity.

7. (new) The quantitative suction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said fixed volume chamber is made detachable for replacement and to accommodate different volumes of liquid.

8. (new) The quantitative suction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said fixed volume chamber is provided at a lower end of said quantitative suction tip.